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COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS
Eleventh special session
Vienna, 29 January-2 February 1990
Item 9 of the provisional agenda**

OTHER URGENT MATTERS

Enlargement of the membership of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs

Note by the Secretary-General

1. At its thirty-third session, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs had before it a draft resolution (E/CN.7/1989/L.7) concerning the enlargement of the membership of the Commission from 40 to 50 members, sponsored by Argentina, Bolivia, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Ecuador, Guatemala, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Nigeria, Panama, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sudan and the United Arab Emirates. The enlargement was considered important in order to enhance the role of the Commission as a policy-making body for the United Nations on drug control matters and to fulfil its responsibilities under the Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (E/CONF.82/15 and Corr.2). It was also considered that an increased membership would reflect the growing interest of all States in participating in, and contributing to, efforts to solve the problems of drug abuse and illicit trafficking.

2. In view of the fact that many delegations were unable to take a position on the matter in the absence of instructions from their Governments, it was decided to consider the draft resolution further under item 9 ("Other urgent matters") of the provisional agenda for the eleventh special session, which was approved by the Economic and Social Council at its first regular session of 1989 (decision 1989/119).

3. Thus, the Commission now has before it for consideration the question of whether or not to recommend to the Economic and Social Council the proposed enlargement of its membership.

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